

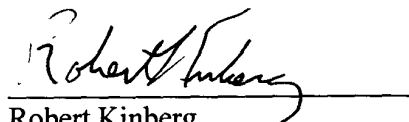
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REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is made to formally enter the handwritten changes to claim 4 made by the inventors prior to signing the inventor Declaration attached to the application. A marked up version showing the changes made to the claims is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED UP VERSION OF THE CLAIM

4. (Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said advancing step includes moving lengthwise a stream consisting of long tobacco particles [and having two spaced apart marginal portions], said admitting step including applying [to one side of the stream] batches of short particles [in spaced apart positions from at least one marginal portion] at least substantially centrally of said stream.

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